

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. An apparatus including:

a media dispenser,

5 wherein the dispenser is adapted for use in an automated banking machine,

wherein the dispenser includes a sheet transport arrangement,

wherein the transport arrangement includes a drive shaft having at
least one drive roller thereon,

10 wherein the transport arrangement includes an idle shaft having at
least one idle roller thereon,

wherein the transport arrangement includes at least one belt
respectively supported on a drive roller and an idle roller,

wherein the drive shaft is operative to drive the idle shaft
via the at least one belt,

wherein the idle shaft is movable relative to the drive shaft
to maintain the at least one belt in a state of tension.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the idle shaft is spring loaded.

3. The apparatus according to claim 2 wherein the idle shaft is supported at each end in a
5 respective slidable flange.

4. The apparatus according to claim 3 wherein the dispenser includes a housing having slots,
wherein each flange is slidable in a respective slot.

5. The apparatus according to claim 3 wherein each flange is attached to a respective spring.

6. The apparatus according to claim 5 wherein each spring is attached to a flange at one
10 spring end, and wherein each spring is attached to a slidable block at an opposite spring
end.

7. The apparatus according to claim 2 wherein the idle shaft is associated with at least one
ratchet device, wherein the at least one ratchet device prevents movement of the idle shaft
toward the drive shaft.

8. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the drive rollers and idle rollers have a concave outer circumferential surface configuration.
9. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the drive rollers have a grooved outer circumferential surface.
- 5 10. The apparatus according to claim 9 wherein the idle rollers have a generally smooth outer circumferential surface relative to the grooved surface of the drive rollers.
11. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the dispenser includes a housing having a slotted opening, wherein an end of the drive shaft is removably mounted in the slotted opening.
- 10 12. The apparatus according to claim 11 wherein the dispenser includes a housing cover, wherein the cover in a closed position is operative to retain the end of the drive shaft in the slotted opening.
13. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the dispenser includes at least one guide roller adjacent the drive roller, wherein a guide roller extends at least partially between
15 the drive roller and the idle roller, wherein the guide roller is operative to provide curvature to a belt supported on the drive roller and the idle roller.

14. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the transport arrangement is operative to transport currency notes intermediate the at least one belt and a transport wall, wherein the transport wall comprises aligned walls of stacked dispenser modules.

15. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the at least one belt comprises at least three belts.

16. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the media dispenser comprises a currency dispenser in an ATM, wherein the currency dispenser contains currency notes therein.

17. A method of operating the apparatus recited in claim 2, comprising:

(a) placing the at least one belt in a state of tension via at least one spring;

(b) rotating the drive shaft to drive the at least one belt;

(c) responsive to (b), moving a sheet in engagement with the at least one belt;

(d) moving the idle shaft away from the drive shaft via the at least one spring to maintain the at least one belt in a state of tension.

18. An apparatus including:

an ATM including a currency dispenser,

wherein the dispenser includes a dispenser housing,

wherein the dispenser includes a sheet transport arrangement,

5 wherein the transport arrangement includes a drive shaft having at
least three drive rollers thereon,

wherein the drive rollers have a concave grooved outer
circumferential surface configuration,

10 wherein an end of the drive shaft is removably mounted in
a slotted opening in the dispenser housing,

wherein a housing cover in a closed position is
operative to retain the end of the drive shaft in the
slotted opening,

wherein the transport arrangement includes a spring loaded driven shaft having at least three driven rollers thereon,

wherein the driven rollers have a concave non-grooved outer circumferential surface configuration,

5 wherein the driven shaft is supported at a first end in a first flange,

wherein the first flange is attached to at least one first spring,

wherein the first flange is slidable in a first slot in the dispenser housing,

10

wherein the driven shaft is supported at a second end in a second flange,

wherein the second flange is attached to at least one second spring,

wherein the second flange is slidable in a second slot in the dispenser housing,

wherein the transport arrangement includes at least three belts,

5

wherein each belt is supported on both a drive roller and a driven roller,

wherein the drive shaft is operative to drive the driven shaft via the belts,

wherein the springs are operative to cause the driven shaft to move away from the drive shaft to maintain the belts in tension.

10